



VOL. V.

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NO. 1.

NOTES.

The Little Wreath.

With a wreath for the infant boy—
Of the rustling corn which covers the
face of the mountain, whose top at the morn—
Is replete by the sheaves of the harvest day.
By him shall be of the populous shell,
With its gold hoard form so firm and bright—
And clasped and polished well—
Becoming and chaste for a form so light.

With the silver star, so flexible and free,
And the golden wreath for the rustic crew—
Tis'd in a hand of the wretched pa—
What think you, child, of my child beyond?
Thou'rt not content, thou simple boy,
With the rustling stalk and golden head—
Of ripest corn—the Farmer's joy—
Thou'lt wear chapter of fame instead.
Yet, thou'lt follow the phantom, Farm—
With studious helm and falchion bright—
A harvest reap, for an empty name—
It aches the dead who fall in fight.

Alas, 'tis thus with our erring kind—
Like children, we pass the sunbeams by,
At the shadow grasp, which still we find—
The tempting view, 'twill the much delay.

MISCELLANY.

From the Mississippi Free Trader.

GEN. JOHN A. QUITMAN.

In our last publication, we promised to notice the charges brought against Gen. Quitman, by a correspondent of the Monroe Democrat, who, as our learned friend of the Vicksburg Sentinel says, signs himself "Caius Marcus." We shall answer these charges in as brief a manner as the circumstances will admit.

It is true that Gen. Quitman belonged to the State Rights Party in 1832. In 1832 he voted for Jackson and Harbo'r, because, with many good Democrats of the State Rights stripe, he did not consider Mr. Van Buren at the same time sound on the Tariff and other questions. He did not become a "Nullifier," nor "fan the flame and add fuel to the evil doctrines of nullification," but on the contrary he admitted and applauded the principles of General Jackson's annual message of 1832. He however, in common with the entire State Rights Party boldly opposed the anti-Democratic doctrines promulgated by the famous "Proclamation" against South Carolina. Who, in the Democratic ranks, now pretends to set up a defense in favor of the political positions assumed in that ill-fated production? He has ever since held the same position with the Patriot Calhoun and his Southern friends, backed by the free trade Woodburn. About that time he wrote some political essays, which were admired and complimented by some of the ablest men in the country. As regards this subject, he has been associated with many of the greatest men of the South (Democrats, too,) and with many in Mississippi who are now, and have long been considered among the firmest and soundest Democrats in the State.—Judge C. P. Smith, Dr. Tipton, Jefferson Davis, the lamented Hagan, Horn, Joseph W. Chalmers and the lamented Col. Andrew J. Martin, also of Tennessee. So much for the assertion of "Caius Marcus," that "Gen. Quitman, when this glorious republic was conceived by the well doctrined of Nullification, and division, and anarchy was threatened, flung the flame and added fuel to the fire." This statement is totally ignorant of the political history of Gen. Quitman, or, it would not go so far as to induce the assertion so notoriously false, that if the writer was known, would disgrac him forever by being no democrat. We shall, of course, to the assertion that Gen. Quitman, until the last few years, made no secret war upon the well-cherished principles of the democratic party. Some may know, and the author knows it, who knows my charge, all about the political character of Gen. Quitman. He has exhibited virtues in excess of the greatest exponents of the Democracy. His position in the pro-slavery party, his opposition to the limited States Bank, and to internal improvements by the Federal government, and his strict construction of the Constitution of the United States induced him to oppose the principles of the Free Traders and Free Soil. But we suppose that Caius Marcus knows his charge against the fact that Gen. Quitman, in 1832, voted for Hugh L. White for President, because he believed him sound on the Slave question and a true Democrat. Gen. Mr. Van Buren, and sounder on the "arid" question; in which opinion he greed with a respectable number of

Democrats of that day and this, and which opinion time has proved to be correct. Such were the reasons which induced a very considerable portion of the democratic party of that day to leave their political friends for a shorter period. At all events, the candid Democrat of that day will accord to the Southern party the justice of having gone off, as they supposed, in search of principle.

But it may be urged by Caius Marcus that in 1836 General Quitman ran for Congress on the White ticket, and that some wings supported it. Will any candid man say that this made Judge White or General Quitman a whig? A contrary doctrine, if carried out, would prove that General Jackson was a Federalist, because it is well known that all the free birds, headed by Daniel Webster, approved the doctrines set forth in the Proclamation. This sort of argument is resorted to by Caius Marcus, will be beneath the dignity of formal refutation, and we will let it pass as a trap to ensnare the ignorant.

We close our answer to this charge that Gen. Quitman has "until the last few years waged the fiercest war upon the long cherished principles of the Democratic party" with the following letter, written by him as far back as 1838. Who can read this letter and doubt the Democracy of its author?

From the Daily Vicksburg Sentinel.

NATCHZ, Dec. 13th, 1838.

Gentlemen:—On my return from Vicksburg a few days since, I received your communication, requesting my opinions upon some of the leading political questions of the day, and desiring permission to give them publicity. Believing that the free interchange of political sentiments tends to promote enquiry, elicit truth and expose error, I have made it a rule never to disguise my own. Having no political aspirations to gratify, I am not interested further than the patriotic and honest of all parties are concerned for the welfare of their country. I will therefore cheerfully comply with your request by communicating my views frankly upon the several subjects to which your letter refers, regretting that the pressure of important engagements will not permit me even to sum up the reasons of arguments which have irresistibly led me to cherish them, as sound and orthodox republican principles. I am, on questions of constitutional law, a strict disciple of the political school in which Jefferson, and more recently Calhoun, were able exponents and teachers; in favor of a strict construction of the federal compact, and of a vigilant and jealous protection of the reserved rights of the States, believing that the latter retain all the capacity adequate to that protection. I thus claim to be a true, just, and nullifier, and still acquiesces in the settlement of that question as made by them, and if elected Governor, he will be the last man to disturb it.

It would, by throwing the influence of the money power in opposition to an increase of revenue tend to check extravagant expenditures and useless appropriations, and thus reduce the revenue and expenses of the government to an economical standard, enforce reform, and remove all temptation to dishonesty. Nor have I a doubt, notwithstanding the senseless clamor of some of the opponents of this measure, that in its operation, instead of increasing it would diminish the executive patronage, in precisely the same ratio that the influence of money, the use of which for private purposes is forbidden under severe penalties, is less than if permitted to be made the basis of bank credit, discount, loans and issues. The custody of a million of dollars, locked up in an iron chest, certainly confers less power than the control of the same amount used frequently as the basis of banking operations, which, it is supposed, may be safely extended to three times the amount of the capital.

In every point of view in which I have been enabled to examine the subject, I am led to the conclusion that the country would be benefited, and even the sound bank, disposed to be content with moderate profits, would be rendered more independent by the proposed divorce. I am in a less to perceive how a genuine State Rights man, unprejudiced and impartial, can oppose measures so evidently tending to promote his principles.

Differing entirely and radically from Messrs. Clay, Harrison and Webster, in every essential political trait, I certainly shall not support either of them for the Presidency. Believing that the elevation of either of these candidates, would result in the establishment of the most dangerous principles. I shall as a citizen do all I can to prevent it. I consider the *National*, composing a great part of the wing party, as federalists of the old school, with whom I have agreements fairly leading in common. I shall co-operate freely and boldly with all genuine republicans, be they democrats or nullifiers, in asserting the principles to which I have alluded.

It is a matter of sincere regret to me to perceive many State Rights men, whom I know to be sound and conservative in the abstract, and with whom I have long conversed, disposed to fall under the blind banner of immediate or early separation of the South from the rest of the country. I believe that such a course, if adopted, would beget a spirit of rebellion, and corrupt the public mind, and would do more to perpetuate the heresy, commercial robbery, and the Southern way to a limited number of Southern monopolists for credit based upon their own exports, would distract forever the largest interests, drawing upon all a direct trade, and would, I fear, soon create a general discord between the South and North, because I believe, in separating, would beget a spirit of rebellion, and corrupt the public mind, and would do more to perpetuate the heresy, commercial robbery, and the Southern way to a limited number of Southern monopolists for credit based upon their own exports, would distract forever the largest interests, drawing upon all a direct trade, and would, I fear, soon create a general discord between the South and North, because I believe, in separating, would beget a spirit of rebellion, and corrupt the public mind, and would do more to perpetuate the heresy, 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